

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF FIRE WARDENS OF THE LONSDALE  
FIRE DISTRICT, INC. , 224 Front Street, Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865**

**HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2015 at the Christ Church Parish Hall,  
1643 Lonsdale Avenue, Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865**

**PRESENT: Mr. Joseph Tashash, Mr. Bradford Booth and Mr. Kevin  
Farrell**

**ABSENT: Mr. Michael Babbitt**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.,  
Thursday, August 20, 2015.**

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2015 MEETING:**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash presented a list of all outstanding bills that total  
\$7856.62. This total includes the 2011 tax year IRS penalty of  
\$1800.00**

**As of Thursday, August 20, 2015 the District has \$3530.32 in its  
Coastway Credit Union checking account, \$502.25 in its Navigant**

**Credit Union checking account, \$20,745.65 in its Blackstone Valley Credit Union checking account, \$858.90 in its money market account, \$9.13 in its savings account and \$1451.37 in cash.**

**If the District needs the funds Blackstone Valley Credit Union is willing to lend \$50,000 through a tax anticipation note when a formalized service agreement with the Saylesville Fire District is finalized. Negotiations with Saylesville are ongoing and the service agreement should be finalized by next meeting.**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to accept and pay the outstanding bills. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Mr. Bradford Booth made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2015 meeting. Mr. Joseph Tashash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

**No formal Fire Chief's Report was prepared for this meeting.**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash stated that in the month of July the Saylesville**

**Fire District responded to 55 calls on behalf of the District, 44 of which were within the District and 11 of which the District would have responded to as an additional responder pursuant to mutual aid agreements.**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Bradford Booth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **WARDEN'S REPORT**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash stated that there is no formal Warden's report and that all information will be provided during old and new business. This item will be removed from the agenda in the future.**

**Mr. Kevin Farrell made a motion to table the Warden's report. Mr. Bradford Booth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**The District may apply for grants in the future if economically feasible. Some grants require a posting of a percentage of the grant to obtain it and/or repayment of the funds under certain circumstances.**

**The budget passed for 2015 was approximately \$617,000.00. Examination of past year revenues and expenditures shows that an actual yearly budget is approximately \$850,000.00. The Board is still in the process of reviewing past bills and expenditures and examining areas to cut costs in order to prepare a preliminary budget.**

**There is approximately \$150,000 in uncollected taxes. The Board is examining a number of factors relating to the ability to collect this debt. \$6800.00 was received from tax sales conducted last month.**

**This year's tax bills are going out the same exact way as in prior years-payable to the District in person at the fire station, by mail or on the website.**

**The Board needs to make plans for a future audit. The work done and continuing to be done by the Board in reviewing past financial information will save on audit costs.**

**The District now possesses two domain names. Control and consolidation of the two sites will be obtained.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A) Maintenance of station equipment**

**Town rescue workers are currently maintaining the District's equipment and are keeping a log of their maintenance activities.**

**B) Report from Saylesville subcommittee**

**As discussed earlier, negotiations on the final terms of the service agreement are still ongoing and should be finalized by next meeting.**

**C) Report from Open Meetings Act and Access to Public Records Act subcommittee**

**Mr. Bradford Booth attended the Attorney General's Open Government Summit on July 31. The Board needs to develop a formal policy and a standardized form for APRA requests.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**The Board anticipates presenting two options to taxpayers for future fire protection coverage for the District.**

**A) Establishment of subcommittee to explore viability of continuing the District as an independent entity**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to establish a subcommittee to**

**explore the viability of continuing the District as an independent entity and to appoint Mr. Michael Babbitt and Mr. Kevin Farrell as the two (2) members of the subcommittee. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**B) Establishment of subcommittee to explore viability of district merger**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to establish a subcommittee to explore the viability of a district merger and to appoint Mr. Joseph Tashash and Mr. Bradford Booth as the two (2) members of the subcommittee. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**C) Establishment of subcommittee to engage in union negotiations**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to establish a subcommittee to engage in negotiations with the firefighters' union and to appoint Mr. Michael Babbitt and Mr. Bradford Booth as the two (2) members of the subcommittee. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**D) Establishment of subcommittee to conduct investigations and address administrative issues**

**Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to establish a subcommittee to**

conduct investigations and address administrative issues and to appoint Mr. Kevin Farrell and Mr. Bradford Booth as the two (2) members of the subcommittee. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **E) Filling vacant position on Board of Wardens**

Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to table consideration of filling the vacant position on the Board of Wardens. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **ADJOURMENT**

Mr. Joseph Tashash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kevin Farrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

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**TIM GRIFFIN, DISTRICT CLERK    BRADFORD BOOTH, SECRETARY**